(vi) provision of whistle boards/ speed breakers and road signs at the approaches of unmanned level crossings and improving visibility for road users and train drivers.

(f) Compensation to the victims is awarded by the Bench of Railway Claims Tribunal in whose jurisdiction accident takes place and claims are settled as and when the awards are received. A sum of Rs. 4.25 lakhs has been paid as compensation. Besides, ex-gratia relief amounting to Rs. 3.52 lakhs was given to the next of kith and kin of the killed and to the injured.

[*English*]

Development of Chilka Lake

173. SHRI BRIJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Union Government that Chilka Lake in Orissa is getting silted;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have allotted any financial assistance to remove the silt and open the passage to the sea ; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for the development of Chilka Lake as a tourist spot ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Government.

[*Translation*]

Railway Lines from Darbhanga to Mansi

174. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend railway line up to Mansi via Darbhanga-Kusheshwar Asthan in Bihar in view of the backwardness of the area ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Railways are facing an acute constraint of resources. The funds provided for new lines are inadequate to progress even the works on hand. It would not be possible to consider these new lines.

Allotment of Petrol Pumps and LPG Agencies to SCs/STs

175. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol pumps and cooking gas agencies in the country, State-wise ; and

(b) the number of such agencies given to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes dealers ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) The required details are given in the enclosed statement.